

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 00607 150223Z

62

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 SNM-02 DEAE-00 NSCE-00

NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 L-02

SPC-03 DRC-01 NEA-07 HEW-01 TRSE-00 AGR-03 JUSE-00

OMB-01 SCI-03 OIC-01 /074 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8704

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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LIMDIS

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR VANCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: US VIEWS ON ITEM 9 OK CND AGENDA: SUPPLY OF OPIATES
FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES

REF: STATE 026073

1. EMBOFF OUTLINED US VIEWS SET FORTH REFTEL WITH DR.
JEAN-PIERRE BERTSCHINGER WHO WILL HEAD SWISS DELEGATION
TO CND. DR. BERTSCHINGER SYMPATHETIC TO US POSITION.
HE POINTED OUT ALL INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS HAVE SIMILAR
INTEREST IN ENSURING REGULAR SUPPLY OF MORPHINE FOR
MEDICAL USE. HE STATED THAT SWITZERLAND, BECAUSE OF
LARGE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY, PARTICULARLY CONCERNED.
IN THIS CONTEXT DR. BERTSCHINGER QUESTIONED WISDOM OF
GIVING ONE COUNTRY MONOPOLY OVER WORLD OPIUM PRODUCTION
FOR EXPORT. HE SAID HE HAD "HIGHEST CONFIDENCE" IN
INDIA BUT WOULD BE CONCERNED REGARDLESS WHAT COUNTRY
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PAGE 02 BERN 00607 150223Z

GIVEN MONOPOLY.

2. DR. BERTSCHINGER SAID HE WOULD SUPPORT "IN PRINCIPLE"
A RESOLUTION ALONG THE LINES SET FORTH PARA 2 REFTEL.
HE COULD NOT COMMIT HIMSELF WITHOUT SEEING A DEFINITE
TEXT.

3. DR. BERTSCHINGER MENTIONED IN CONTEXT OF WORLD
NARCOTIC PRODUCTION CONTROLS THAT HE IS CONCERNED THAT
TURKEY MAY NOT MAINTAIN ITS PRESENT BAN ON OPIUM POPPY
CULTIVATION. HE OFFERED NO REASONS FOR THIS CONCERN.

4. EMBOFF ASKED ABOUT PRICE LEVELS IN SWITZERLAND FOR
MEDICAL USE MORPHINE. DR. BERTSCHINGER SAID THAT FOR
MANY YEARS IT COST ABOUT \$20.00 PER KILOGRAM BUT RECENTLY
HAD GONE OVER \$40.00 PER KILOGRAM.

5. DR. BERTSCHINGER REGARDED US POSITION AS OUTLINED
PER REFTEL AS "MODIFICATION" OF PREVIOUS US POLICIES.
HE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE MODIFICATION.
DAVIS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition History: n/a
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To: STATE
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